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PROGRAM	CBS Evening News	STATION	WDVM TV CBS Network
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SUBJECT	Eugene Tafoya		

GARY SHEPARD: ...Who tried to kill Faisal Zagali?  
The investigation reached all the way to Libya where the government of Colonel Qaddafi had branded Zagali a traitor.

Months before, the FBI had warned Zagali his name was on a hit list because he had taken part in protest marches against, among other things, Qaddafi's policy of international terrorism.

Nearly four months after the shooting, which cost Zagali the sight in his right eye, two youngsters found a .22 caliber revolver in this drainage ditch, only a few miles from the Zagali home. Police are convinced it was the weapon used in the murder attempt.

The trail led investigators here, to the town of Truth or Consequences, New Mexico. They traced the gun to 47 year old Eugene Tafoya. He was arrested in April and charged with the attempted murder of Faisal Zagali.

Last month, he was extradited to Fort Collins and ordered held in half a million dollars' bail.

Tafoya is a former Green Beret, 23 years in the military, five years in Vietnam. These pictures of him, taken in 1965 during the battle of Plei Me, where he won the Bronze Star for heroism.

Investigators now believe Gene Tafoya, war hero, at some point decided to put his weapons and explosives training to use as Gene Tafoya, hired gun, a paid assassin on the payroll of Libya.

In New Mexico, one local police official's daughter was related by marriage to Tafoya.

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ROBERT SIMON: I heard from my daughter that he was working as a hit man for the government. The things that he said to his family -- but he didn't say which government, no. Everybody supposed it was our government.

BETTY JO TAFOYA: He's not a hired killer. He's not a paid hired killer. The only time he had to do any fighting for his country was when he was in the service.

SHEPARD: At a recent court hearing, investigators said the evidence in Tafoya's home indicated he made numerous telephone calls to Libya and had made several trips there during the past year. And they found one other thing, a business card from Edwin Wilson, a former CIA employee who, with Frank <sup>TERPIL</sup>~~Turple~~, another ex-CIA man, has been indicted for conspiring to sell arms to Libya and train terrorists for the Libyans. Both have fled the country.

Investigators believe Wilson and <sup>TERPIL</sup>~~Turple~~ recruited several former Green Berets from Fort Bragg, North Carolina for Libyan terrorism.

And Faifas Zagali, now in hiding, wonders when they might try again.